

Serial No.: 09/812,472

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. In response to the office action, applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 18, 21-23, 25, 27, 29, and 31. Claims 1-32 remain pending for reconsideration.

Claims 1-32 are rejected as being either anticipated by or obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,227,931 (Shackelford), either alone or in combination with various references. Applicants have amended the claims to obviate these rejections.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the interview held on June 22, 2004. During the interview, the Examiner agreed that the type of theme-related background scene image data recited in the amended claims was not taught or suggested by the LCD display readout of the time of day or bar graphs described in Shackelford.

Claims 1, 25, and 29 have been respectively amended to clarify that the image data is theme-related background scene image data. Accordingly, the rejections of claims 1, 25, 29 and their respective dependent claims are considered to be overcome.

Claim 5 has been re-written in independent form, but is otherwise as previously presented. During the interview, the Examiner acknowledged that Shackelford does not teach or suggest deriving the image data from one of a television signal, a streaming video signal, a video camera, and a global computer network. Accordingly, claim 5 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended claim 18, which depends from claim 1, to be directed to a detector to detect a condition of the environment in which the play set is disposed, wherein the first set of background scene image data is responsive to an output of the detector. During the interview, the Examiner acknowledged that these further features were not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Serial No.: 09/812,472

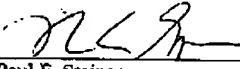
In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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